

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House and Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 2528, Military Construction/Veterans Affairs' Appropriations.

House and Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3058, Transportation/Treasury/HUD/DC Appropriations.

Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 307, Adjournment Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S13284–S13425

Measures Introduced: Twenty-eight bills and eleven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2052–2079, S. Res. 320–329, and S. Con. Res. 67.

Pages S13360–62

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 2006". (S. Rept. No. 109–185)

Page S13360

Measures Passed:

Continuing Resolution: Senate passed H.J. Res. 72, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2006, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto, clearing the measure for the President:

Pages S13283–87

Rejected:

By 46 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 348), Harkin Amendment No. 2672, to increase the amount appropriated to carry out under the Community Services Block Grant Act.

Pages S13285–87

National Flood Insurance Program Further Enhanced Borrowing Authority Act: Senate passed H.R. 4133, to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the national flood insurance program, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Page S13424

Hutchison (for Shelby) Amendment No. 2673, to provide for emergency spending.

Page S13424

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 307, providing for a conditional adjourn-

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ment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

Pages S13307–08

Rosa Parks Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 208, recognizing the 50th anniversary of Rosa Louise Parks' refusal to give up her seat on the bus and the subsequent desegregation of American society, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S13409

Permanent Trade Relations Extension: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 632, to authorize the extension of unconditional and permanent nondiscriminatory treatment (permanent normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Ukraine, and the bill was then passed.

Page S13409

Subsequently, the bill was ordered held at the desk.

Page S13409

Rosa Parks Statue: Senate passed H.R. 4145, to direct the Architect of the Capitol to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks and to place the statue in the United States Capitol in National Statuary Hall, clearing the measure for the President.

Pages S13409–10

Trials of Mikhail Khodorkovsky and Platon Lebedev: Senate agreed to S. Res. 322, expressing the sense of the Senate on the trial, sentencing and imprisonment of Mikhail Khodorkovsky and Platon Lebedev.

Page S13410

Control Over the Internet: Senate agreed to S. Res. 323, expressing the sense of the Senate that the United Nations and other international organizations should not be allowed to exercise control over the Internet.

Pages S13410–11

Sri Lanka: Senate agreed to S. Res. 324, expressing support for the people of Sri Lanka in the wake of the tsunami and the assassination of the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister and urging support and respect for free and fair elections in Sri Lanka.

Pages S13411–12

Printing Authority: Senate agreed to S. Res. 325, to authorize the printing of a revised edition of the Senate Election Law Guidebook.

Page S13412

Child Safety Pilot Program: Senate passed S. 1961, to extend and expand the Child Safety Pilot Program.

Page S13412

Vessel Hull Design Protection Amendments: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 1785, to amend chapter 13 of title 17, United States Code (relating to the vessel hull design protection), to clarify the distinction between a hull and a deck, to provide factors for the determination of the protectability of a revised design, to provide guidance for assessments of substantial similarity, and the bill was then passed.

Page S13412

Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah: Senate passed H.R. 680, to direct the Secretary of Interior to convey certain land held in trust for the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah to the City of Richfield, Utah, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S13413

Holly A. Charette Post Office: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 1989, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 57 Rolfe Square in Cranston, Rhode Island, shall be known and designated as the “Holly A. Charette Post Office”, and the bill was then passed.

Page S13413

Randall D. Shughart Post Office Building: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2062, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 57 West Street in Newville, Pennsylvania, as the “Randall D. Shughart Post Office Building”, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S13413

Vincent Palladino Post Office: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2183, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 Tompkins Avenue in Staten Island, New York, as the “Vincent Palladino Post Office”, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S13413

Willie Vaughn Post Office: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was dis-

charged from further consideration of H.R. 3853, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 208 South Main Street in Parkdale, Arkansas, as the Willie Vaughn Post Office, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S13413

Darfur Peace and Accountability Act: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. 1462, to promote peace and accountability in Sudan, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S13413–17

McConnell (for Brownback) Amendment No. 2674, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S13414

Year of Polio Education: Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 304, to designate the period beginning on November 1, 2005 and ending on October 31, 2006 as the Year of Polio Education, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S13417

Drive Safer Sunday: Senate agreed to S. Res. 326, designating November 27, 2005, as “Drive Safer Sunday”.

Page S13417

Little Rock Central High School Desegregation 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 358, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of the Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S13417–18

McConnell (for Pryor) Amendment No. 2675, in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S13417–18

Presidential \$1 Coin Act: Senate passed S. 1047, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of each of the Nation’s past Presidents and their spouses, respectively to improve circulation of the \$1 coin, to create a new bullion coin, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S13421–24

McConnell (for Sununu) Amendment No. 2676, to make technical corrections.

Page S13421

Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations House Message—Conferees: Senate considered the House Message to accompany H.R. 3010, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, taking action on the following motions proposed thereto:

Pages S13287–91

By 66 yeas to 28 nays (Vote No. 349), Senate agreed to Specter motion to instruct Conferees to insist that \$2,183,000,000 be available for the Low Income Home Energy Heating Assistance program.

Pages S13288–90, S13291

By 58 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. 350), Senate agreed to Durbin motion to instruct Conferees to insist on retaining the Senate passed provisions relating to funding for the National Institutes of Health.

Pages S13290–91

Subsequently, the Senate requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Specter, Cochran, Gregg, Craig, Hutchison, Stevens, DeWine, Shelby, Domenici, Harkin, Inouye, Reid, Kohl, Murray, Landrieu, Durbin, and Byrd.

Pages S13291–92

Military Construction/Veterans Affairs' Appropriations Conference Report: By unanimous consent, Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 2528, making appropriations for military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S13329

Transportation/Treasury/HUD/DC Appropriations—Conference Report: By a modified unanimous consent agreement, notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3058, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S13418

Enrollment Resolution—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, that when the Senate receives from the House of Representatives a correcting resolution relating to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3058 (listed above), the text of which is identical to the concurrent resolution at the desk, the concurrent resolution be considered agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

Page S13418

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that during this adjournment of the Senate, the Majority Leader, the Assistant Majority Whip, and Senator Warner, be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

Page S13418

Authority for Committees: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, all committees were authorized to file legislative and executive matters on Thursday, December 8, 2005, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.

Page S13418

Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

Page S13418

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following Nominations:

Patricia Lynn Scarlett, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

Ronald L. Schlicher, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Alejandro Daniel Wolff, of California, to be the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Deputy Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Alejandro Daniel Wolff, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Carol van Voorst, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iceland. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Ross Wilson, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Donald M. Payne, of New Jersey, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixtieth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Edward Randall Royce, of California, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixtieth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

31 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

51 Army nominations in the rank of general.

7 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Coast Guard.

Routine list in the Foreign Service. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.) **Pages S13424–25**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

David Longly Bernhardt, of Colorado, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

Michael W. Michalak, of Michigan, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Senior Official to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum.

James D. McGee, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Union of Comoros. **Page S13424**

Messages From the House: **Page S13357**

Measures Held at Desk: **Page S13357**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S13357**

Executive Communications: **Pages S13358–60**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S13360**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S13362–63**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S13363–S13403**

Additional Statements: **Pages S13354–57**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S13403–07**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S13407**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—350) **Pages S13287, S13291**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9 a.m. and, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 307, adjourned at 6:19 p.m., until 2 p.m., on Monday, December 12, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13424.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FUTURE OF SCIENCE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of science, focusing on scientific education and research, after receiving testimony from Eric A. Cornell, Senior Scientist, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Administration, Department of Commerce, and University of Colorado Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics; Peter Agre, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina; James R. Heath, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena; and Samuel C.C. Ting, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 2027, to implement the United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 45 public bills, H.R. 4387–4431; 1 private bill, H.R. 4432; and 11 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 307–310; and H. Res. 571, 573–578 were introduced.

Pages H11033–35

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H11035–36**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Investigation Into Rafael Palmeiro's March 17, 2005 Testimony at the Committee on Government

Reform's Hearing: "Restoring Faith in America's Pastime: Evaluating Major League Baseball's Efforts to Eradicate Steroid Use" (H. Rept. 109–310);

S. 229, to clear title to certain real property in New Mexico associated with the Middle Rio Grande Project (H. Rept. 109–311);

H. Res. 572, providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 571) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the deployment of United States forces in Iraq be terminated immediately and providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 308) directing the